

NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Northop Community Council held at the Memorial Institute, Northop on Monday 8th April, 2019.

PRESENT: Councillors Linda Deane (Chairman), Pauline Lawton-Hughes (Vice-Chairman), Paul Ashley, Alison Brebner, Rachel Hayward, Jarred Livesey, Rob Mackey, Chris Ruddle, Linda Scott, Alan Watkin and the Clerk.

APOLOGIES: Received from Councillors Marion Bateman, John Carlin, and Jo Millar.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Declaration of Interest was made:

- Cllr. Linda Scott – Neighbour of applicant (Agenda Item 5 (a)(iii) – Consideration of responses to any Planning Applications)

2. POLICE MATTERS

There were no updates by the PCSO nor issues raised by members at the meeting.

3. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council meeting of the 11th March, 2019 were confirmed as a true record.

Matters arising

Item 4

- The streetlight previously reported as “dim” adjacent to 10 Pilgrim’s Close was now out.
- The timescale for installing permanent road signs for the Crematorium to be further clarified.

Item 6(b) – Members were advised that the Financial Accounts for the Edith Bankes Memorial Hall were with their Auditors for inspection and would be forwarded to Council as soon as available.

4. STREETSCENE ISSUES

Members reported the following issues:

Northop

The streetlight adjacent to 10 Pilgrim’s Close to be reported to FCC.

Sychdyn

Reports of poor spread of light from streetlights along New Brighton Road, Vownog Newydd and Pen y Bryn, Sychdyn. The Clerk to ask FCC to investigate and to adjust the spread of light from these columns.

The Clerk to invite FCC's Streetscene Co-ordinator (FCC) to the May Council meeting to discuss local issues.

5. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

(a) The following planning application was considered and observations agreed to be submitted to Flintshire County Council's (FCC) Head of Planning:

(i) **PA1/059147** – Retention of existing marquee for a further 3 year period to cater for weddings and general functions in conjunction with existing hotel use (Previously approved under planning ref 052178) & retention of log cabin to be used in conjunction with marquee at Soughton Hall Hotel, Sychdyn.

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(ii) **PA1/059148** – Listed Building Application for the retention of existing marquee for a further 3 year period and relocation of log cabin to be used in conjunction with marquee, at Soughton Hall Hotel, Sychdyn.

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(iii) **KCS/059709** – Single storey rear extension at 3 Pilgrims Close, Northop, CH7 6BF.

The Council had no objection to the proposed development.

(b) The Council received no information from Flintshire County Council's Head of Planning on planning applications on which the Council has previously submitted observations.

(c) The Clerk reported that she had received a response from FCC providing details of actions taken by FCC in response to the breaches of planning permission by Stuart Milne Homes. The response had been forwarded to members. The Clerk also advised that, following a request under the Freedom of Information Act, she had received a copy of the Traffic Management Plan for the Ffordd Eldon Site and that had also been forwarded to members.

6. ACCOUNTS

(a) Payment of the following accounts were approved:

- (i) Gwen Smith – Clerk's salary for April 2019 = £333.02 (net)
(Cheque No. 2120) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (ii) HM Revenue & Customs – Income Tax payment of £83.40
in respect of Clerk's salary April 2019
(Cheque No. 2121) (Government Act 1972 - Section 111)
- (iii) Jim's Mowing – Grass Cutting on 6th and 20th March, totalling £120.00
(Cheque No. 2122) (Open Spaces Act - Sections 9 and 10)
- (iv) Flintshire County Council, for February 2019, totalling £304.90
 - Electricity consumption, £156.35
 - Inspection and maintenance, £148.55(Cheque No. 2123) (Highways Act 1957 – Section 17)

(c) The bank mandate form for Cllr. Ashley was updated and ready for him to present to the Council's bank.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

None raised.

8.0 TRAFFIC MATTERS

Members received updates on the following:

(a) Speeding Vehicles in and around Northop

- The Clerk to chase progress on completion of the Traffic Regulation Order, by FCC, that will allow the GoSafe camera van to be sited along the B5126 on the approach from the college campus to Northop village.
- A number of members reported that they had been contacted by a reporter from The Leader seeking comments on traffic issues in and around Northop. A response was given highlighting the need for better signage, enforcement and education of drivers.

(b) Improvement to the road network within the Community Area

The Clerk to seek to re-arrange the meeting for Cllr. Bateman and the Clerk with FCC officers to discuss traffic issues in Northop and safety improvement along New Brighton Road.

8.1 WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION - A55 JUNCTION WITH A494 AND A548 - DEESIDE CORRIDOR

Members heard that an on-line petition to the Welsh Government had been established - "Stop the Red Route". Members were encouraged to share the information and to encourage those who wish to see the Red Route stopped, to sign the petition. It was felt that more publicity for the campaign could be achieved via the local press.

9. COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

Cllr. Scott advised that she was awaiting a response from FCC on the design of the defibrillator cabinet. The Clerk to write to FCC on behalf of the Council, in support of this community project and to seek an early response to the outstanding issues.

10. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2019

(a) Members received a report from the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer, on the final accounts for the financial year 2018/19. The following matters were discussed:

- The Clerk to contact Sychdyn Playgroup once more advising that if the cheque issued to them in November as "emergency relief" is not cashed by 30th April, the cheque would be cancelled by the Council.

- Members were asked to consider the location of the next phase of streetlighting upgrades. The Clerk to seek advice from FCC.
- The final Bank Reconciliation for 2018/19 was counter-signed by the Chairman.

(b) The Annual Governance Statement was approved along with the Final Accounts for 2018/19. The submission of the final accounts and supporting documentation to the Internal Auditor on 15th April, 2019 was approved subject to the amendment of the expenditure forecast summary and the projected Year End Outturn for 2019/20, to include the cost of an additional 2hrs salary for the new Clerk.

The Clerk was thanked for her work in preparing the Audit information and it's presentation to Council.

11. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek further information regarding the "Views from Home" project and return the item to the May Council Meeting.

12. UNDERSTANDING WELSH PLACES PROJECT

Cllrs Scott and Hayward agreed to produce the short narrative descriptions of Northop and of Sychdyn to be included on the UWP website which will be launched during the coming summer. The deadline for responses is 29th April 2019.

13. TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

(a) Members were asked to consider attendance at the Planning Aid Wales training event on the evening of 4th July at Gwersyllt on "Responding to Planning Applications and Maximising your Influence". Cost is £35 per delegate. This item would be considered again at the May Council Meeting.

(b) Once received, the Clerk to forward to members, any training opportunities offered by Once Voice Wales over the coming months. (Timetable awaited.)

14. FOR INFORMATION

Road Closure – The slip road adjacent to the village car park will be closed at it's junction with the A5119 from Monday 29th April for a period of up to two weeks to facilitate repair to the stone boundary wall. The entrance to the slip road from the B5126 will remain open and allow vehicular access to the car park and for residents. An officer from Flintshire County Council will call at the affected properties to advise them of the closure.

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH NORTHOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S
CODE OF CONDUCT**

COUNCIL MEETING	DATE: 8th April, 2019
------------------------	---

MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
Cllr. Linda Scott	Item 15 (a)(iii) – Consideration of comments on a planning application.	5.